

THE PIONEER



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Train to Serve

As a voluntary Society we naturally notice below emphasizes one of the greatest. The cally have many needs. The notice are also material needs which some of our supporters may feel able to supply. For instance, the Training College is in need of a considerable amount of equipment which we can only obtain gradually as funds become available. To mention just two items, we are greatly in need of new supplies of Bed Linen and general Household Linen.

If any of our friends would like to send us their Tea Coupons these could be exchanged for house-hold goods. Some people kindly send us used stamps and we are glad to receive any quantities, large or small, as they can be sold and so help our funds.

CHAPLAIN TO THE QUEEN : Last year we were delighted to learn that the Chief Secretary of England, the Rev. Prebendarry D. M. Lynch, had been appointed a Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen. It is true to say that the world wide work of the Church Army has been honoured by the appointment.

Although it is too early to announce any details we are looking forward to a visit by Prebendarry Lynch for about the first two weeks of February 1971. He plans to visit the first three Church Army Societies here and in New Zealand.



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It is a great occasion for an Army when it is strengthened for battle by the addition of trained and equipped soldiers. This was so for the Church Army when on Sunday the 25th January, at the service of Evening Prayer in St. Andrews' Cathedral, Sydney, the Primitive admitted to the Office of Evangelist, Michael Tobin and Les Fernance. The next day at a special service in the Training College Chapel the General Secretary Commissioned them as Officers of the Federal Secenary Committee of the Staff Conference after which they went to lead the Staff Conference. Then followed the Staff Officers of the Church Army.

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The sharing of experiences between one another whilst in session and while talking informally was of tremendous value, in that we all were made freshly aware of each other's situations and needs. I am pleased that a monthly prayer sheet will go out to all Officers giving special prayer points so that we can pray for one another more intelligently. The Community Services each morning were a real blessing and brought us around our Lord's Table as a family to be renewed spiritually.

I came away from the Conference realising the great need for further training in special fields. It was good to hear that those who are responsible for directing the Church Army and for the training of Officers, are well aware of the need for specialist qualifications and that plans are now being made in this direction. I thank God that I am privileged to serve Him and to bring the Good News of His love to those whom I'm sent to serve.

As with all family reunions, fellowship and humour played their natural part, and were experienced in laughter around the meal table, afterwards walking and talking.

Conference—wonderful memories of challenge, devotion and fellowship to enrich us and enable us to continue as Christ's faithful soldiers and servants within the service of the Church Army.

A Staff Conference may seem to many a time of hard work, deciding on strategies, discussing problems, trying to find answers to questions and shared with us this vision and plans for the future of our Society, while other Officers also spoke of their work and experiences, and all this added to the wonderful family spirit experienced by us during our time together. The Rev. L. J. Harris shared daily with us in a study of the warfare and armour of the Christian, while individual Officers led the times of Prayer and Praise each evening.